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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/576,900	04/30/2007	Ralph Wirtz	2004P56021US	6097
28524 7590 05/04/2009 SIEMENS CORPORATION INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DEPARTMENT 170 WOOD AVENUE SOUTH ISELIN, NJ 08830				
EXAMINER DAVIS, MINH TAM B				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
1642				
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05/04/2009		PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/576,900

Applicant(s)

WIRTZ ET AL.

Examiner

MINH-TAM DAVIS

Art Unit

1642

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 March 2009.
2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3, 5, 7 and 10 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) 1-3, 5 and 10 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 7 is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-850)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 3/9/09, 11/14/07, 11/9/07
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Applicant's election with traverse of group F, claim 7 in the reply filed on 3/9/09 is acknowledged. Applicant cancels claims 4, 6, 8-9 and adds new claim 10.

The traversal is on the ground(s) as follows:

In the present application, the special technical feature is the diagnosis of neoplasia, prediction of response to cancer treatment, and a kit which include the combination of markers comprising SEQ ID NOs: 361, 363, 379 and 392 as claimed in claims 1, 7 and 10. Thus, all of the claims of the present application should be searched together. In addition, all of the dependent claims should be searched with the independent claims. If the independent claims satisfy the requirements of unity of invention, no problem with lack of unity arises from the dependent claims. (PCT Rule 13.4) In fact, it does not matter if the dependent claim itself contains a further invention. (Id.). Thus, the further election of species as set out in the restriction requirement should be withdrawn.

This is not found persuasive because of the following reasons:

The special technical feature of the claimed invention is a combination of the nucleic acids of SEQ ID NO: 361, SEQ ID NO: 363, SEQ ID NO: 379 and SEQ ID NO:392 as claimed in claim 10. Claims 1-3, 5 are the first use of a combination of the nucleic acids of SEQ ID NO: 361, SEQ ID NO: 363, SEQ ID NO: 379 and SEQ ID NO:392. Claim 7 is an additional use of a combination of the nucleic acids of SEQ ID NO: 361, SEQ ID NO: 363, SEQ ID NO: 379 and SEQ ID NO:392. The invention of claim 7 is distinct from the invention of claims 1-3, 5 and 10, because if multiple products, processes of manufacture or uses are claimed, the first invention of

the category first mentioned in the claims of the application will be considered as the main invention in the claims, see PCT article 17(3) (a) and 1.476 (c), 37 C.F.R. 1.475(b) and (d). After that, all other products and methods will be broken out as separate groups (see 37 CFR 1.475(d).)

The requirement is still deemed proper and is therefore made FINAL.

In a conversation with Karla Weyand on 3/30/09, Applicant elects with traverse the combination of the nucleic acids of SEQ ID NO: 361, SEQ ID NO: 363, SEQ ID NO: 379 and SEQ ID NO:392 and breast cancer. It is noted that breast cancer is not a species, but is a distinct invention.

Accordingly, group F, claim 7, a method for diagnosis of breast cancer, using the combination of the nucleic acids of SEQ ID NO: 361, SEQ ID NO: 363, SEQ ID NO: 379 and SEQ ID NO:392.

The embodiment of claim 7, as drawn to a method for diagnosis of cancer, using the combination of polypeptides encoded by SEQ ID NO: 361, SEQ ID NO: 363, SEQ ID NO: 379 and SEQ ID NO:392 has been withdrawn from consideration as being drawn to non-elected invention. The embodiment of claim 7, as drawn to a method for diagnosis of a cancer other than breast cancer, using the polynucleotides of SEQ ID NO: 361, SEQ ID NO: 363, SEQ ID NO: 379 and SEQ ID NO:392 has been withdrawn from consideration as being drawn to non-elected invention. Further, claims 1-3, 5, 10 have been withdrawn from consideration as being drawn to non-elected invention.

Objection

The specification is objected to as failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter. See 37 CFR 1.75(d)(1) and MPEP § 608.01(o).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112, Second Paragraph

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

1. Claims 7 is indefinite because it recites “stringent hybridization conditions”. Stringent conditions are not defined by the claim (which reads on the full range of stringent conditions, that is from very permissive to very high stringency), the specification does not provide a standard for ascertaining the requisite degree of stringent conditions and one of ordinary skill in the art would not be reasonably apprised of the scope of the invention and would not be able to determine the metes and bounds of the claims.

2. Claim 7 is indefinite for reciting Table 2 or 3. MPEP 2173.05(s) teaches that “Where possible, claims are to be complete in themselves. Incorporation by reference to a specific figure or table “is permitted only in exceptional circumstances where there is no practical way to define the invention in words and where it is more concise to incorporate by reference than duplicating a drawing or table into the claim. Incorporation by reference is a necessity doctrine, not for applicant’s convenience.” Ex parte Fressola, 27 USPQ2d 1608, 1609 (Bd. Pat. App. & Inter. 1993)”

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112, First Paragraph, Written Description

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

The specification discloses that SEQ ID NO: 361, SEQ ID NO: 363 and SEQ ID NO: 379 encode SEQ ID NO: 439, SEQ ID NO: 441, and SEQ ID NO: 457, respectively, all of which are component of intermediate filament network (p.141, 148-149). The specification discloses that SEQ ID NO:392 encodes SEQ ID NO: 470, which is a dehydrogenase, GAPDH (p.142, 150).

It is noted that “generation of the genetic code” is not the same as “degeneration of the genetic code”.

The specification and the art do not disclose structure of polynucleotide analogs of SEQ ID NO: 361, SEQ ID NO: 363 and SEQ ID NO: 379, which analogs encode proteins that have the same function of the corresponding proteins encoded by SEQ ID NO: 361, SEQ ID NO: 363 and SEQ ID NO: 379. The structure of the claimed polynucleotide analogs, however, are unpredictable, in view of the unpredictability of protein chemistry, such unpredictability applies as well to the encoding polynucleotides. Protein chemistry is probably one of the most unpredictable areas of biotechnology. Bowie (Science, 1990, 257:1306-1310) teaches that an amino acid sequence encodes a message that determines the shape and function of a protein and

that it is the ability of these proteins to fold into unique three-dimensional structures that allows them to function and carry out the instructions of the genome and further teaches that the problem of predicting protein structure from sequence data and in turn utilizing predicted structural determinations to ascertain functional aspects of the protein is extremely complex. (col 1, p. 1306). Bowie further teaches that while it is known that many amino acid substitutions are possible in any given protein, the position within the protein's sequence where such amino acid substitutions can be made with a reasonable expectation of maintaining function are limited. Certain positions in the sequence are critical to the three dimensional structure/function relationship and these regions can tolerate only conservative substitutions or no substitutions (col 2, p. 1306). The sensitivity of proteins to alterations of even a single amino acid in a sequence are exemplified by Burgess et al (J of Cell Bio. 111:2129-2138, 1990) who teach that replacement of a single lysine residue at position 118 of acidic fibroblast growth factor by glutamic acid led to the substantial loss of heparin binding, receptor binding and biological activity of the protein and by Lazar et al (Molecular and Cellular Biology, 1988, 8:1247-1252) who teach that in transforming growth factor alpha, replacement of aspartic acid at position 47 with alanine or asparagine did not affect biological activity while replacement with serine or glutamic acid sharply reduced the biological activity of the mitogen. These references demonstrate that even a single amino acid substitution will often dramatically affect the biological activity and characteristics of a protein.

Although drawn to DNA arts, the findings in University of California v. Eli Lilly and Co., 119 F.3d 1559, 43 USPQ2d 1398 (Fed. Cir. 1997) and Enzo Biochem, Inc. V. Gen-Probe Inc. are relevant to the instant claims. The Federal Circuit addressed the application of the

written description requirement to DNA-related inventions in University of California v. Eli Lilly and Co., 119 F.3d 1559, 43 USPQ2d 1398 (Fed. Cir. 1997). The court stated that “[a] written description of an invention involving a chemical genus, like a description of a chemical species, requires a precise definition, such as by structure, formula, [or] chemical name, of the claimed subject matter sufficient to distinguish it from other materials.” *Id.* At 1567, 43 USPQ2d at 1405. The court also stated that

a generic statement such as “vertebrate insulin cDNA” or “mammalian insulin cDNA” without more, is not an adequate written description of the genus because it does not distinguish the genus from others, except by function. It does not specifically define any of the genes that fall within its definition. It does not define any structural features commonly possessed by members of the genus that distinguish them from others. One skilled in the art therefore cannot, as one can do with a fully described genus, visualize or recognize the identity of the members of the genus. A definition by function, as we have previously indicated, does not suffice to define the genus because it is only an indication of what the gene does, rather than what it is. *Id.* At 1568, 43 USPQ2d at 1406. The court concluded that “naming a type of material generally known to exist, in the absence of knowledge as to what that material consists of, is not a description of that material.” *Id.*

Finally, the court addressed the manner by which a genus of cDNAs might be described. “A description of a genus of cDNAs may be achieved by means of a recitation of a representative number of cDNAs, defined by nucleotide sequence, falling within the scope of the genus or of a recitation of structural features common to the members of the genus, which features constitute a substantial portion of the genus.” *Id.*

The Federal Circuit has recently clarified that a DNA molecule can be adequately described without disclosing its complete structure. See Enzo Biochem, Inc. V. Gen-Probe Inc., 296 F.3d 1316, 63 USPQ2d 1609 (Fed. Cir. 2002). The Enzo court adopted the standard that the written description requirement can be met by “show[ing] that an invention is complete by

disclosure of sufficiently detailed, relevant identifying characteristicsi.e., complete or partial structure, other physical and/or chemical properties, functional characteristics when coupled with a known or disclosed correlation between function and structure, or some combination of such characteristics.” Id. At 1324, 63 USPQ2d at 1613 (emphasis omitted, bracketed material in original).

The inventions at issue in Lilly and Enzo were DNA constructs per se, the holdings of those cases are also applicable to claims such as those at issue here. A disclosure that does not adequately describe a product itself logically cannot adequately describe a method of using that product.

In this case, the specification does not describe the polynucleotide analog in a manner that satisfies either the standards as shown in the example of Lilly or Enzo. The specification does not provide sufficient structure or common structure, other than SEQ ID NO: 361, SEQ ID NO: 363, SEQ ID NO: 379, and SEQ ID NO: 392 to support the broad breath of the claimed genus. Nor is there any functional characteristics coupled with a known or disclosed correlation between structure and function. Although the specification discloses SEQ ID NO: 361, SEQ ID NO: 363, SEQ ID NO: 379, and SEQ ID NO: 392, this does not provide a description of the polynucleotide analog that would satisfy the standard as shown in the example of Enzo.

The specification also fails to describe the polynucleotide analog, by the standards shown in the example in Lilly. The specification describes only SEQ ID NO: 361, SEQ ID NO: 363, SEQ ID NO: 379 and SEQ ID NO: 392. Therefore, it necessarily fails to describe a “representative number” of such species. In addition, the specification also does not describe

“structural features common to the members of the genus, which features constitute a substantial portion of the genus.”

The specification does not provide an adequate written description of the polynucleotide analog that is required to practice the claimed invention. Thus, the specification does not meet the 112, first paragraph written description requirement, and one of skill in the art would reasonably conclude that Applicant did not have possession of the claimed polynucleotide analog at the time the invention was made. Since the specification fails to adequately describe the product for use in the claimed method, it also fails to adequately describe the claimed method.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112, First Paragraph, Enablement

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention.

To comply with the enablement requirement of 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, the specification must enable one skilled in the art to make and use the claimed invention without undue experimentation. The claims are evaluated for enablement based on the Wands analysis. Many of the factors regarding undue experimentation have been summarized in *In re Wands*, 858 F.2d 731, 8 USPQ2d 1400 (Fed.Circ.1988) as follows: (1) the nature of the invention, (2)

the state of the prior art, (3) the predictability or lack thereof in the art, (4) the amount of direction or guidance present, (5) the presence or absence of working examples, (6) the quantity of experimentation necessary, (7) the relative skill of those in the art, and (8) the breadth of the claims.

The specification discloses that differentially expressed cancer genes could be screened by methods known in the art (p.54, 110).

The specification, however, does not have any data or objective evidence that the polynucleotides of SEQ ID NO: 361, SEQ ID NO: 363, SEQ ID NO: 379 and SEQ ID NO: 392 are differentially expressed in breast cancer tissue as compared to non-cancerous breast tissue, such that they can used for diagnosis of breast cancer.

1. Claim 7 is rejected under 112, first paragraph, for lack of enablement for a **method for detecting breast cancer.**

In the absence of objective evidence, one cannot determine whether SEQ ID NO: 361, SEQ ID NO: 363, SEQ ID NO: 379 and SEQ ID NO: 392 are differentially expressed in breast cancer tissues as compared to non-cancerous breast control tissues, because the level of expression of a polynucleotide in cancer tissue is not predictable. It is well known in the art that not every gene in a cancer cell is affected in carcinogenesis, such as mutation or changes in expression as compared to normal control cells. For example, Stanton, P et al, 1994, Br J Cancer, 70: 427-433 teach that the level of expression of epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR) cannot be predicted from cell lines or tumors (p.432, second column, last paragraph), and that from ten tumors from which the cell lines are derived, only two of the tumors display elevated levels of EGFR, BICR6 and BICR18 proteins (table V on page 430, and first column, last

paragraph of page 430) In other words, not only the level EGFR, BICR6 and BICR18 proteins are the same as normal control in 8 tumors, the rest of other proteins in table V are not different from normal control in all ten tumors. Similarly, Ichle, C et al, 1999, J Steroid Biochem Mol Biol, 68: 189-195, teach that although the level of 5-alpha-reductase-1 is increased in prostate cancer tissue, the level of the isoform 5-alpha-reductase-2 is the same as that of normal prostate (abstract). Abbaszadegan, M R, et al, 1994, Cancer Res, 54: 4676-4679, teach that the level of multidrug resistance-associated protein (MRP) detected in malignant hematopoietic cells is similar to the level found in normal hematopoietic cells (p.4678, second column, last 6 lines of second paragraph).

Moreover, a **sample** as claimed encompasses any sample or tissue to which breast cancer cells have metastasized to. It is unpredictable that metastasized breast cancer cells still express the claimed sequences, because expression of a sequence could be lost during the progression toward metastasis. For example, Russo, V et al, 1995, Int J Cancer, 64: 216-221, teach that analysis of multiple metastatic lesions and primary breast tumors show that in some cases the MAGE gene expression is lost during metastasis, but in some other cases, in metastasis nodes derived from MAGE-negative primary tumors, MAGE gene expression is detected (abstract, and table II on page 220). Kibel, AS et al, 2000, J urol, 164(1): 192-6 teach that gene expression in the chromosomal region 12p12-13 is different in primary and metastatic prostate cancer cells, and that inactivation in the chromosome region 12p12-13 occurs prior to metastasis. Similarly, Dong et al, 2000, Cancer Research, 60: 3880-3883, teach that deletion of a region in the chromosome 13q21 is associated with aggressive prostate cancer, as compared to less aggressive

prostate cancer, such as primary prostate cancers that are not yet differentiated (abstract, and figure 1 on page 3882).

2. Claim 7 is also rejected under 112, first paragraph, for lack of enablement for a **polynucleotide analog of SEQ ID NO: 361, SEQ ID NO: 363, SEQ ID NO: 379 or SEQ ID NO: 392, its derivative or allelic variant thereof.**

Even if SEQ ID NO: 361, SEQ ID NO: 363, SEQ ID NO: 379 and SEQ ID NO: 392 were differentially expressed in breast cancer tissues as compared to non-cancerous breast control tissues, one would not know how to make the claimed analogs, derivatives or allelic variant, such that they have the same function as the corresponding polynucleotide, nor one can predict that the claimed analogs, derivatives or allelic variant would be differentially expressed in breast cancer tissues as compared to non-cancerous breast control tissues.

One would not know how to make the claimed analogs, derivatives or allelic variant, such that they have the same function as the corresponding polynucleotide, in view of the unpredictability of protein chemistry, as taught by Bowie et al, Burgess et al, and Lazar et al, supra, such unpredictability applies as well to polynucleotides that encode the proteins.

Further, one cannot predict that the claimed analogs, derivatives or allelic variant would be differentially expressed in breast cancer tissues as compared to non-cancerous breast control tissues. It is well known in the art that variants of a sequence do not necessarily express at the same level as the corresponding wild type. For example, Schmid S et al, 2001 (J comparative Neurology, 430(2): 160-71), teach that the variants flip/flop of the gene GluR are expressed at higher levels in neurons in the auditory braistem, as compared to the wild type GluR-A and

GluR-B, and that neurons in the central nucleus of the inferior colliculus express high levels of GluR-B flip but only low levels of the other receptor subunits. Conner et al, 1996 (Mol Brain Res, 42: 1-17), teach that full length trkB is found in the hippocampus in patients with Alzheimer's disease, but not in hippocampi of either normal age-matched individual or patients with Huntington's disease, and that truncated trkB is found in senile plaques in hippocampus and temporal lobe in both patients with Alzheimer's disease and Huntington's disease, but not in normal brains of age-matched individuals (page 8, item 3.1.2).

MPEP 2164.03 teaches that "the amount of guidance or direction needed to enable the invention is inversely related to the amount of knowledge in the state of the art as well as the predictability of the art. In re Fisher, 427 F.2d 833, 839, 166 USPQ 18, 24 (CCPA 1970). The amount of guidance or direction refers to that information in the application, as originally filed, that teaches exactly how to make or use the invention. The more that is known in the prior art about the nature of the invention, how to make, and how to use the invention, and the more predictable the art is, the less information needs to be explicitly stated in the specification. In contrast, if little is known in the prior art about the nature of the invention and the art is unpredictable, the specification would need more detail as to how to make and use the invention in order to be enabling."

Given the above unpredictability, and in view of the complex nature of the invention, a lack of sufficient disclosure in the specification, and little is known in the art concerning the claimed invention, there would be an undue quantity of experimentation required for one of skill in the art to practice the claimed invention, that is commensurate in scope of the claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(c) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Dai et al (US 7,171,311 B2, filed on 1/15/03).

Claim 7. (Currently Amended) A method for diagnosis of malignant neoplasia said method comprising:

amplifying a nucleic acid sequence in a sample of a patient and detecting at least four markers in the nucleic acid sequence characterized in that the four markers are selected from:

(a) polynucleotides comprising SEQ ID NO: 361, SEQ ID NO: 363, SEQ ID NO: 379, and SEQ ID NO: 392;

(b) a polynucleotide or polynucleotide analog which hybridizes under stringent conditions to a polynucleotide specified in (a) and encodes a polypeptide exhibiting the same biological function as specified for the respective sequence in Table 2 or 3

(c) a polynucleotide or polynucleotide analog the sequence of which deviates from the polynucleotide specified in (a) and (b) due to the generation of the genetic code encoding a polypeptide exhibiting the same biological function as specified for the respective sequence in Table 2 or 3

(d) a polynucleotide or polynucleotide analog which represents a specific fragment, derivative or allelic variation of a polynucleotide sequence specified in (a) to (c).

Dai et al teach marker sets correlated with breast cancer, useful for diagnosis of breast cancer (column 20, first paragraph), and subsets of at least 5 markers, for distinguishing tumor types, such as ER+ and ER- patients (column 20, second paragraph). Dai et al teach that the target polynucleotides could be expressed RNA or amplified RNA (column 122, lines 15-20). SEQ ID NO:361, SEQ ID NO: 363, SEQ ID NO: 379, and SEQ ID NO: 392, respectively, of the claimed invention are 86.4% similar to SEQ ID NO:492, from nucleotide 62 to nucleotide 1480 of SEQ ID NO: 361, and 100% similar to SEQ ID NO: 484, SEQ ID NO: 485, and SEQ ID NO: 714, taught by Dai et al (columns 26-29, table 1), as shown by MPSRCH sequence similarity search (MPSRCH search result, 2009, us-10.576.900.361.mi.result 2, pages 1-2, MPSRCH search result, 2009, us-10.576.900.363.mi.result 1, pages 1-2, MPSRCH search result, 2009, us-10.576.900.379.mi.result 1, pages 1-2, and MPSRCH search result, 2009, us-10.576.900.392.mi.result 3, pages 1-2).

The method taught by Dai et al is the same method as the claimed method for detecting a derivative of SEQ ID NO:361, SEQ ID NO: 363, SEQ ID NO: 379, and SEQ ID NO: 392. Further, the method taught by Dai et al would inherently detect SEQ ID NO:361, SEQ ID NO: 363, SEQ ID NO: 379, and SEQ ID NO: 392, because of the extensive homology between the claimed SEQ ID NO:361 and SEQ ID NO: 492 taught by the art, and because of 100% similarity between the claimed SEQ ID NO: 363, SEQ ID NO: 379, and SEQ ID NO: 392 and SEQ ID NO: 484, SEQ ID NO: 485, and SEQ ID NO: 714, respectively, taught by Dai et al.

Conclusion

No claims are allowed.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to MINH-TAM DAVIS whose telephone number is 571-272-0830. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00 AM-5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, LARRY HELMS can be reached on 571-272-0832. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

MINH TAM DAVIS
April 30, 2009

/Larry R. Helms/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1643

MPSRCH search result, 2009, us-10.576.900.361.mi.result 2, pages 1-2

```
RESULT 2
US-10-342-887-492
; Sequence 492, Application US/10342887
; Patent No. 7171311
; GENERAL INFORMATION:
; APPLICANT: Dai, Hongyue
; APPLICANT: He, Yudong
; APPLICANT: Linsley, Peter S.
; APPLICANT: Mao, Mao
; APPLICANT: Roberts, Christopher J.
; APPLICANT: Van 't Veer, Laura Johanna
; APPLICANT: Van de Vijver, Marc J.
; APPLICANT: Bernards, Rene
; TITLE OF INVENTION: Diagnosis and Prognosis of Breast Cancer Patients
; FILE REFERENCE: 9301-188-999
; CURRENT APPLICATION NUMBER: US/10/342,887
; CURRENT FILING DATE: 2003-01-15
; PRIOR APPLICATION NUMBER: 60/298,918
; PRIOR FILING DATE: 2001-06-18
; PRIOR APPLICATION NUMBER: 60/380,710
; PRIOR FILING DATE: 2002-05-14
; PRIOR APPLICATION NUMBER: 10/172,118
; PRIOR FILING DATE: 2002-06-14
; NUMBER OF SEQ ID NOS: 2699
; SEQ ID NO 492
; LENGTH: 1419
; TYPE: DNA
; ORGANISM: Homo sapiens
US-10-342-887-492

Query Match 86.4%; Score 1411; DB 5; Length 1419;
Best Local Similarity 99.6%; Pred. No. 1.5e-272;
Matches 1414; Conservative 0; Mismatches 5; Indels 0; Gaps 0;

Qy 62 ATGACTACCTGCAGCGCGCAGTTACCTCCTCCAGCTCCATGAAGGGCTCCCTGCGGCATC 121
Db 1 ATGACTACCTGCAGCGCGCAGTTACCTCCTCCAGCTCCATGAAGGGCTCCCTGCGGCATC 60

Qy 122 GGGGCGGCATCGGGGCGGCCTCCAGCGCATCTCCTCCGCTCTGGCGGAGGGCTCTCTGC 181
Db 61 GGGGCGGCATCGGGGCGGCCTCCAGCGCATCTCCTCCGCTCTGGCGGAGGGCTCTCTGC 120

Qy 182 CGCGCCCCAGCACTACGGGGGCGGCCTGTCTGTCTCATCTCCCGCTTCTCCTCTGGG 241
Db 121 CGCGCCCCAACCACTACGGGGGCGGCCTGTCTGTCTCATCTCCCGCTTCTCCTCTGGG 180

Qy 242 GSAGCCTACGGGCTGGGGGCGGCCTATGGCGGTGGCTTCAGCAGCAGCAGCAGCAGCTTT 301
Db 181 GSAGCCTATGGGTTGGGGGCGGCCTATGGCGGTGGCTTCAGCAGCAGCAGCAGCAGCTTT 240

Qy 302 GGTAGTGGCTTTGGGGGAGGATATGGTGGTGGCTTGGTGGTGGCTTGGGTGGTGGCTTT 361
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Qy 362 GGTGGTGGCTTTGGTGGTGGTGGGCTTCTGGTGGGAGTGAGAAAGTGACCATGAG 421
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Qy	482	GCACGACCTGGAGTGAAGATCCCTGACTGCTACCGAGGCGAGCGCTGCTGAGATCAAA	541
Db	421	GCACGACCTGGAGTGAAGATCCCTGACTGCTACCGAGGCGAGCGCTGCTGAGATCAAA	480
Qy	542	GACTACAGTCCCTACTTCAAGACCAATTGAGGACCTGAGGAACAAGATTCTCACAGCCACA	601
Db	481	GACTACAGTCCCTACTTCAAGACCAATTGAGGACCTGAGGAACAAGATTCTCACAGCCACA	540
Qy	602	GTGGACAATGCCAATGTCCCTCTGCGAGATTGACAATGCCGCTCGGCGCGGATGACTTC	661
Db	541	GTGGACAATGCCAATGTCCCTCTGCGAGATTGACAATGCCGCTCGGCGCGGATGACTTC	600
Qy	662	CGCACCAAGTATGAGACAGAGTTGAACCTGCGCATGAGTGTGGAAGCCGACATCAATGGC	721
Db	601	CGCACCAAGTATGAGACAGAGTTGAACCTGCGCATGAGTGTGGAAGCCGACATCAATGGC	660
Qy	722	CTGCGCAGGGTGTGCTGGACAACTGACCTGGCCAGAGCTGACCTGGAGATGCAGATTGAG	781
Db	661	CTGCGCAGGGTGTGCTGGACAACTGACCTGGCCAGAGCTGACCTGGAGATGCAGATTGAG	720
Qy	782	AGCCTGAAGGAGGAGCTGGCCCTACCTGAAGAGAACACAGGAGGAGATGAATGCCCTG	841
Db	721	AGCCTGAAGGAGGAGCTGGCCCTACCTGAAGAGAACACAGGAGGAGATGAATGCCCTG	780
Qy	842	AGAGGCCAGGTGGGTGGAGATGTCAATGTGGAGATGGACGCTGACCTGGGTGGACCTG	901
Db	781	AGAGGCCAGGTGGGTGGAGATGTCAATGTGGAGATGGACGCTGACCTGGGTGGACCTG	840
Qy	902	AGCCGCAATTCGAACGAGATGCGTGAACAGTATGAGAAGATGGCAGAGAGAACCCGAAG	961
Db	841	AGCCGCAATTCGAACGAGATGCGTGAACAGTATGAGAAGATGGCAGAGAGAACCCGAAG	900
Qy	962	GATGCCGAGGAATGGTTCTTCACCAAGACAGAGGAGCTGAACCGCGAGGTGGCCACCAAC	1021
Db	901	GATGCCGAGGAATGGTTCTTCACCAAGACAGAGGAGCTGAACCGCGAGGTGGCCACCAAC	960
Qy	1022	AGCGAGCTGGTGCAGAGCGGCAAGAGCGAGATCTCGGAGCTCCGGCGCACCATGCAGAAC	1081
Db	961	AGCGAGCTGGTGCAGAGCGGCAAGAGCGAGATCTCGGAGCTCCGGCGCACCATGCAGAAC	1020
Qy	1082	CTGGAGATTGAGCTGCAGTCCAGCTCAGCATGAAAGCATCCCTGGAGAACAGCCTGGAG	1141
Db	1021	CTGGAGATTGAGCTGCAGTCCAGCTCAGCATGAAAGCATCCCTGGAGAACAGCCTGGAG	1080
Qy	1142	GAGACCAAGGTGCTACTGTCATGCACTGGCCAGATCCAGAGATGATTGGCAGCCTG	1201
Db	1081	GAGACCAAGGTGCTACTGTCATGCACTGGCCAGATCCAGAGATGATTGGCAGCCTG	1140
Qy	1202	GAGGAGCAGCTGGCCAGCTCCGCTGCGAGATGGAGCAGCAGAACAGGAGTACAGATC	1261
Db	1141	GAGGAGCAGCTGGCCAGCTCCGCTGCGAGATGGAGCAGCAGAACAGGAGTACAGATC	1200
Qy	1262	CTGCTGAGCTGAAGACGCGGCTGAGGACAGGAGATCGCCACCTACCGCGCGCTGCTGGAG	1321
Db	1201	CTGCTGAGCTGAAGACGCGGCTGAGGACAGGAGATCGCCACCTACCGCGCGCTGCTGGAG	1260
Qy	1322	GGCGAGGAGCGCCACCTCTCTCTCTCTCCAGTTCTCTCTGGATGCGCATCATCAGAGAT	1381
Db	1261	GGCGAGGAGCGCCACCTCTCTCTCTCTCCAGTTCTCTCTGGATGCGCATCATCAGAGAT	1320
Qy	1382	GTGACCTCTCTCCAGCGCCAAATCCGACCAAGGTCTATGGATGTGCAAGATGGCAAGGTG	1441
Db	1321	GTGACCTCTCTCCAGCGCCAAATCCGACCAAGGTCTATGGATGTGCAAGATGGCAAGGTG	1380
Qy	1442	GTGTCCACCCACGAGAGGTCTCTTCCGACCAAGAACTGA	1480

MPSRCH search result, 2009, us-10.576.900.363.rni.result 1, pages 1-2

Query Match	100.0%	Score 1512	DB 5	Length 1512
Best Local Similarity	100.0%	Pred. No. 2.9e-300		
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Db	1	CTCTCTTCGAGCCCTTCTCTGTGTGGCTGCCTCTCGGGCGGGCAGCATGACCACCTCC	60	
Qy	61	ATCGCGCAGTTTCACTCTCTCCAGCTTCATCAAGGSCCTCTCGGCGCTGGGGGGCGGCTCG	120	
Db	61	ATCGCGCAGTTTCACTCTCTCCAGCTTCATCAAGGSCCTCTCGGCGCTGGGGGGCGGCTCG	120	
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Qy	181	GCTGGCGGCTTGGGCGACACCTCTGGGGGTAGCAGCTACTCTCAGCTCTCAGAGCTTTGGC	240	
Db	181	GCTGGCGGCTTGGGCGACACCTCTGGGGGTAGCAGCTACTCTCAGCTCTCAGAGCTTTGGC	240	
Qy	241	TCTGGTGGTGGCTATGCGCAGCAGCTTTGGGGGTGTGATGGGCTGCTGGCTGGAGGTGAG	300	
Db	241	TCTGGTGGTGGCTATGCGCAGCAGCTTTGGGGGTGTGATGGGCTGCTGGCTGGAGGTGAG	300	
Qy	301	AAGCGCACATCTAGAGCACTCAATGACGCGCTGGGCTGCTCACTGCGACAGGTCGGTGGCG	360	
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Qy	361	CTGAGGAGGGCCACACTGAGCTGAGGTGAGATGCGTGATCTACGAGGCGAGGGCC	420	
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Qy 541 GCTGCTGATGACTTCCGCAACCAAGTTTGAGACAGAGCAGGCGCTGCGCGCTGAGTGTGGAG 600

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Db 721 GAGATGAAGCGCCTCGCAGGCGAGGTGGTGGTGGTGAATCAATGTGGAGATGAGCGCTGCC 780

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Db 841 GAGAAAGAACCGCAAGGATGCCGAGGATTGGTCTTTCAGCAAGACAGAGAACTGAACCGC 900

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Art Unit: 1642

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Qy      1501  AAAAAAAAAAAAA 1512
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MPSRCH search result, 2009, us-10.576.900.379.rni.result 1, pages 1-2

RESULT 1

US-10-342-887-485

; Sequence 485, Application US/10342887

; Patent No. 7171311

; GENERAL INFORMATION:

; APPLICANT: Dai, Hongyue

; APPLICANT: He, Yudong

; APPLICANT: Linsley, Peter S.

; APPLICANT: Mao, Mao

; APPLICANT: Roberts, Christopher J.

; APPLICANT: Van 't Veer, Laura Johanna

; APPLICANT: Van de Vijver, Marc J.

; APPLICANT: Bernards, Rene

; TITLE OF INVENTION: Diagnosis and Prognosis of Breast Cancer Patients

; FILE REFERENCE: 9301-188-999

; CURRENT APPLICATION NUMBER: US/10/342,887

; CURRENT FILING DATE: 2003-01-15

; PRIOR APPLICATION NUMBER: 60/298,918

; PRIOR FILING DATE: 2001-06-18

; PRIOR APPLICATION NUMBER: 60/380,710

; PRIOR FILING DATE: 2002-05-14

; PRIOR APPLICATION NUMBER: 10/172,118

; PRIOR FILING DATE: 2002-06-14

; NUMBER OF SEQ ID NOS: 2699

; SEQ ID NO 485

; LENGTH: 2529

; TYPE: DNA

; ORGANISM: Homo sapiens

US-10-342-887-485

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Query Match      100.0%; Score 2301; DB 5; Length 2529;
Best Local Similarity 100.0%; Pred. No. 0;
Matches 2301; Conservative 0; Mismatches 0; Indels 0; Gaps 0;

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Db      229 TCGACAGCTCTCTCGGCCAGCCAGTTCTGGAAGGGGATAAAAAGGGGGCATCACCGTTCC 288
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Qy      61  TGGGTAACAGAGCCACCTTCTGCGTCTCTGAGCTCTGTCTCTCTCAGACCTCCCAAC 120
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Db      289 TGGGTAACAGAGCCACCTTCTGCGTCTCTGAGCTCTGTCTCTCTCAGACCTCCCAAC 348
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Qy      121 CCACTAGTGCCTGGTTCTCTCTGCTCCACAGGAACAAGCCACCATGTCTGCGCAGTCAAG 180
          |||
Db      349 CCACTAGTGCCTGGTTCTCTCTGCTCCACAGGAACAAGCCACCATGTCTGCGCAGTCAAG 408
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Qy      181 TGTGTCCTTCCGGAGCGGGGGCAGTCGTAGCTTCAGCACCGGCTCTGCCATCACCGGTC 240
          |||
Db      409 TGTGTCCTTCCGGAGCGGGGGCAGTCGTAGCTTCAGCACCGGCTCTGCCATCACCGGTC 468
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Qy      241 TGTCTCCCGCACCAGCTTCACCTCCGTTGTCGGGGTCCGGGGGTGGCGGTGGTGGTGGCT 300
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Db      469 TGTCTCCCGCACCAGCTTCACCTCCGTTGTCGGGGTCCGGGGGTGGCGGTGGTGGTGGCT 528
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Qy 301 CGGCAGGGTCAGCCTTGC GGGTGCTTGTGGAGTGGGTGGCTATGGCAGCCGAGCCTCTA 360
Db 529 CGGCAGGGTCAGCCTTGC GGGTGCTTGTGGAGTGGGTGGCTATGGCAGCCGAGCCTCTA 588
361 CAACCTGGGGGGGCTCAAGAGGATATCCATCAGCACTAGAGGAGGCAGCTTCAGGAACCG 420
Db 589 CAACCTGGGGGGGCTCAAGAGGATATCCATCAGCACTAGAGGAGGCAGCTTCAGGAACCG 648
Qy 421 GTTTGGTGTGCTGTGCTGAGGCGGCTATGCTTTGGAGTGTGTGCGGTAGTGGATTGG 480
Db 649 GTTTGGTGTGCTGTGCTGAGGCGGCTATGCTTTGGAGTGTGTGCGGTAGTGGATTGG 708
Qy 481 TTTGCGCGGTGGAGCTGTGTGCTTTGGGCTCGGTGGCGGAGCTGCTTTGGAGTGG 540
Db 709 TTTGCGCGGTGGAGCTGTGTGCTTTGGGCTCGGTGGCGGAGCTGCTTTGGAGTGG 768
Qy 541 CTTGCGGTGGCCCTGGCTTTCTGTCTGCCCTCCTGGAGGTATCCAAAGAGTCACTGTCAA 600
Db 769 CTTGCGGTGGCCCTGGCTTTCTGTCTGCCCTCCTGGAGGTATCCAAAGAGTCACTGTCAA 828
Qy 601 CAGAGTCTCCTGACTCCCTCAACCTGCAATCGACCCAGCATCCAGAGGGTGAGGAC 660
Db 829 CAGAGTCTCCTGACTCCCTCAACCTGCAATCGACCCAGCATCCAGAGGGTGAGGAC 888
Qy 661 CGAGGAGCGCGAGCAGATCAAGACCTCAACAAATAGTTTGCCTCCTTCATGACAAAGGT 720
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Db 1969 AGGTAGCAGTGGAAAGCTACTACTCCAGCAGCAGTGGGGGTGTGCGCCCTAGTGGTGGGCT 2028

Qy 1801 CAGTGTGGGGGCTCTGGCTTCAGTGCAGCAGTGGCCGAGGGCTGGGGGTGGGCTTTGG 1860

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Db 2089 CAGTGGCGGGGGTAGCAGCTCCAGCGTCAAAATTTGTCTCCACCACCTTCCTCTCCCGGAA 2148

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Db 2149 GAGCTTCAAGAGCTAAGAACTGCTGCAAGTCACTGCCTTCCAAAGTGCAGCAACCCAGCC 2208

Qy 1981 CATGGAGATTGCCTCTTTAGSCAGTTGCTCAAGCCATGTTTATTATCCTTTTCTGGAGAGT 2040

Db 2209 CATGGAGATTGCCTCTTTAGSCAGTTGCTCAAGCCATGTTTATTATCCTTTTCTGGAGAGT 2268

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Qy 2281 AATAAATGCTTTTATAATAT 2301

Db 2509 AATAAAATGCTTTATAATAT 2529

MPSRCH search result, 2009, us-10.576.900.392.rni.result 3, pages 1-2

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RESULT 3
US-10-342-887-714
; Sequence 714, Application US/10342887
; Patent No. 7171311
; GENERAL INFORMATION:
; APPLICANT: Dai, Hongyue
; APPLICANT: He, Yudong
; APPLICANT: Linsley, Peter S.
; APPLICANT: Mao, Mao
; APPLICANT: Roberts, Christopher J.
; APPLICANT: Van 't Veer, Laura Johanna
; APPLICANT: Van de Vijver, Marc J.
; APPLICANT: Bernards, Rene
; TITLE OF INVENTION: Diagnosis and Prognosis of Breast Cancer Patients
; FILE REFERENCE: 9301-188-999
; CURRENT APPLICATION NUMBER: US/10/342,887
; CURRENT FILING DATE: 2003-01-15
; PRIOR APPLICATION NUMBER: 60/298,918
; PRIOR FILING DATE: 2001-06-18
; PRIOR APPLICATION NUMBER: 60/380,710
; PRIOR FILING DATE: 2002-05-14
; PRIOR APPLICATION NUMBER: 10/172,118
; PRIOR FILING DATE: 2002-06-14
; NUMBER OF SEQ ID NOS: 2699
; SEQ ID NO 714
; LENGTH: 1283
; TYPE: DNA
; ORGANISM: Homo sapiens
US-10-342-887-714

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Best Local Similarity 100.0%; Pred. No. 0;
Matches 1283; Conservative 0; Mismatches 0; Indels 0; Gaps 0;

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Qy	661	TGGGGTGTGGCGCGCGGGCTCTCCAGACATCATCCCTGCCCTACTGGCGTCCAAAG	720
Db	661	TGGGGTGTGGCGCGCGGGCTCTCCAGACATCATCCCTGCCCTACTGGCGTCCAAAG	720
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Db	721	GCTGTGGCGAAGGTCACTCCTGAGCTGAAGCGGAAGCTCACTGCGATGGCCCTCCGTGTG	780
Qy	781	CCCACTGCCAACGTGTCACTGGTGGACCTGACCTGCCGTCTAGAAAACCTGCCAAATAT	840
Db	781	CCCACTGCCAACGTGTCACTGGTGGACCTGACCTGCCGTCTAGAAAACCTGCCAAATAT	840
Qy	841	GATGACATCAAGAAGTGTGTGAAGCAGCGCTCGAAGGCGCCCTCAAAGGCATCCTGGGC	900
Db	841	GATGACATCAAGAAGTGTGTGAAGCAGCGCTCGAAGGCGCCCTCAAAGGCATCCTGGGC	900
Qy	901	TACACTGAGCACCAAGTGGTCTCCTCTGACTTCAACAGCAGCACCCACTCCTCCACCTTT	960
Db	901	TACACTGAGCACCAAGTGGTCTCCTCTGACTTCAACAGCAGCACCCACTCCTCCACCTTT	960
Qy	961	GACGCTGGGGTGGCATTTGCCCTCAACAGCACCTTTTGTCAAGCTCATTTCTCGTATGAC	1020
Db	961	GACGCTGGGGTGGCATTTGCCCTCAACAGCACCTTTTGTCAAGCTCATTTCTCGTATGAC	1020
Qy	1021	AACGAATTTGGCTACAGCAACAGGSGTGTGGACCTCATGCGCCCACTGGCCTCCAGGAG	1080
Db	1021	AACGAATTTGGCTACAGCAACAGGSGTGTGGACCTCATGCGCCCACTGGCCTCCAGGAG	1080
Qy	1081	TAAGACCCCTGGACCCACAGCGCCCAAGAGCACAAGAGGAAGAGAGAGCCCTCACTG	1140
Db	1081	TAAGACCCCTGGACCCACAGCGCCCAAGAGCACAAGAGGAAGAGAGAGCCCTCACTG	1140
Qy	1141	CTGGGGAGTCCCTGCCACACTCAGTCCCCACCCACACTGAATCTCCCTCTCTCACAGTTG	1200
Db	1141	CTGGGGAGTCCCTGCCACACTCAGTCCCCACCCACACTGAATCTCCCTCTCTCACAGTTG	1200
Qy	1201	CCATGTAGACCCCTTAAGAGGSGAGGGGCTAGGAGGCGCACTTGTGATGTATCCATC	1260
Db	1201	CCATGTAGACCCCTTAAGAGGSGAGGGGCTAGGAGGCGCACTTGTGATGTATCCATC	1260
Qy	1261	AATAAAGTACCTGTGGCTCAACC	1283
Db	1261	AATAAAGTACCTGTGGCTCAACC	1283